

# LinCS 2 Durham

Linking Communities and Scientists

HIV Prevention

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## Doing Community Engagement: A Community Engagement Exercise

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# LinCS 2 Durham

- A 5-year community-based participatory research (CBPR) project formed to help reduce the rate of HIV in Durham, NC's Black community.
- Researchers and Durham's Black community deciding together what research is needed to better prevent HIV in Durham County .



# LinCS Population of Interest

- Young Black adults (18-30) living in Durham, NC
- Why?
  - The future of the Black community
  - Population in Durham with highest incidence of HIV
  - Population most likely to be targeted for HIV research and HIV prevention activities



# LinCS – A Multi-Faceted Project

- **Collaborative Council (CC)**
  - Outside evaluation of process
- Ethnography
- Focus groups
- Community survey
- Key informant interviews
- Research literacy curriculum
- Outreach



# Challenge 1: Group Dynamics

- **Diverse stakeholders** including professionals with strong views and experience expressing them in large groups and community members with less experience and different values and comfort levels re speaking out
- **Different levels of information/knowledge** re discussion topics and **different comfort levels claiming knowledge**
- **Stakeholders** who see themselves in **dual roles**: members of the research team and the community. What is their primary identity? How do others see them? Paid vs. volunteer?
- **Finding a format that works** for our priority population: 18-30 year olds

# Challenge 2: Compensation for Community Members

- A benchmark of collaborative partnerships: **“Share fairly financial and other rewards of the research”**

(Emanuel et al. (JAMA 2000;283(20):2701-2711)

- If the LinCS 2 Durham Collaborative Council is a partnership, **what constitutes sharing fairly?**
  - Research team members are paid to be CC members
  - Participation by some non-research team CC members is supported by or benefits their work
  - Other CC members are volunteers in the truest sense

# Strategies for Groups Dynamics Challenges

- Use of small groups
  - Reduces domination and discomfort
- Establishment of CC Working Group
  - Ensures more shared leadership between research team and non-staff members of the CC
- Process evaluation with outside evaluator
  - Serves as reality check re meeting CBPR goals
  - Helps identify and address challenges
- Targeted Advisory Board for 18-30 year olds
  - 1-time meetings with no expectation of long-term commitment



# Strategies for Compensation Challenge

- Compensation Guide as point of reference
- Tiers of activity/involvement and compensation
- CC Working Group has discretion regarding compensation
- Additional CC benefit opportunities: recognition, authorship, and professional development



# CC Volunteer Compensation Guidance

Tier	Compensation
1: Volunteer activities up to 15 hrs/month	Certificate of appreciation
2: Non-volunteer activities 16-20 hrs/month	Non-monetary compensation e.g., local conference fee support
3: Special requests for non-volunteer activities, e.g., all day meetings	Monetary compensation, e.g., gift/gas/grocery card (\$20 value)